

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release July 13, 1978

Levitt 202/343-5634

REVISED "DUCK STAMP DATA" BOOKLET AVAILABLE

The latest revision of "Duck Stamp Data," a 50-page looseleaf booklet which pictures and describes each of the Federal duck stamps that have been issued annually since 1934, has been published by the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The colorful stamps constitute the longest running, annually issued series of stamps in revenue or postage stamp history.

Duck stamps, officially known as Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps, are required by anyone 16 years of age and over when hunting migratory waterfowl.

"Duck Stamp Data" is of interest to philatelists, sportsmen, and other conservationists. It reviews the origin of the duck stamp, reports on how money from stamp sales is spent, and explains how a new stamp is selected each year.

The stamp, first issued for \$1, is required by the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act of 1934. Since that time, more than 72 million stamps, which now cost \$5, have been sold. Funds derived from the sale of duck stamps are used to purchase, develop, and manage national wildlife refuges for migratory waterfowl.

Each year a new duck stamp design is selected from hundreds of entries in the Duck Stamp Contest held at the Department of the Interior. The annual competition is the only art contest regularly sponsored by the Federal Government.

Since 1934, when duck stamps first went on sale, over \$200 million in revenue has been collected and used for the acquisition of 2.1 million acres of prime waterfowl habitat. By purchasing the stamps, more than 2.4 million conservationists annually provide close to \$12 million in revenue.

Non-hunters who also enjoy the wildlife resource through photography, birdwatching, and other activities contribute to the U.S. conservation effort by buying stamps.

"Duck Stamp Data," also known as Fish and Wildlife Circular 111, is available for \$2.50 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Stamp clubs and individuals will be given a 25 percent discount upon purchase of 100 or more copies going to one address. When ordering, please specify GPO Stock Number 024-010-00455-0.

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INT 4592-78
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE